



Department of Justice

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Southern District of West Virginia

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MCDOWELL COUNTY WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO TRANSPORTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Stacey Nichole Farmer, 32, of Squire, McDowell County, West Virginia pled guilty before United States District Judge Irene C. Berger admitting that she transported child pornography. From February through May 2009, at her home in Squire, McDowell County, West Virginia, Farmer used a digital camera to produce several images of a minor child under the age of twelve years engaged in sexually explicit conduct, that is, the lascivious exhibition of the minor's genitals and pubic area. Farmer also permitted the minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing images of that conduct. The images depicted, among other things, sexual contact between Farmer and the minor. Farmer distributed these images via email to an individual in Alaska.

As a result of her guilty plea, Farmer faces a mandatory minimum of five years and up to 20 years imprisonment followed by a lifetime of supervision by the Court upon her release from prison. The West Virginia State Police Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force conducted the investigation. AUSA Karen B. Schommer is handling the prosecution.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about cases and related activities, please visit www.usdoj.gov/usao/wvs/ and www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

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